## **PROCEEDINGS**

OF THE

# BIOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF WASHINGTON

D BORNEO

## THREE NEW BIRDS FROM BANKA AND BORNEO.

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In identifying Malaysian birds in the United States National Museum, the three following forms seem to require naming and are herewith described:

#### Porzana pusilla mira, subsp. nov.

Type.—Adult female, U. S. National Museum, No. 181740, Tanggarong, Mahakkam River, East Borneo, June 25, 1912. Collected by H. C. Raven (orig. no. 67).

Similar to *Porzana pusilla pusilla* from Northern China, but the brown of the upperparts with a more rufous tinge; superciliary and cheeks lighter gray; below the throat and breast are white, only the chest very pale gray; bill (in the skin) olive yellow, base and culmen medal bronze instead of olivaceous black. Wing, 86; tail, 39; culmen, 16; tarsus, 27; middle-toe and claw, 38 mm.

Remarks.—This specimen has been compared with four males and four females from northern China taken in March (1), July (1), and May (6). The most striking differences between P. pusilla pusilla and P. pusilla mira are the more rufous tinge to the brown of the upperparts, the white throat and breast, and the yellow sides to the bill of the latter. Porzana pusilla palustris of Australia is similar to Porzana pusilla mira in the color of the upperparts, but the chest, cheeks, and superciliaries are a deeper gray. P. p. palustris lacks the brown post-ocular streak of P. p. pusilla and P. p. mira, and the color of the bill is similar to P. p. pusilla, olivaceous black.

Apparently the form occurring in Borneo of *Porzana pusilla* has only been thought to be a visitor, but that there is a resident form there is now little doubt.

Four adult males of *P. p. pusilla* from northern China, measure: wing, 87.5–91 (89.9); tail, 42–45 (44); culmen, 17–18 (17.4); tarsus, 26–29 (28); middle-toe and claw, 36–40 (38); four adult females from Northern China: wing, 83–92 (87.4); tail, 38–46 (40.9); culmen, 16–17 (16.6); tarsus, 27–28 (27.4); middle-toe and claw, 36–38.5 (37.2).

This indicates little difference in size between the two forms and only a minor one between the sexes.

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## Rhopodytes sumatranus minor, subsp. nov.

Type.—Adult male, U. S. National Museum, No. 181,804, Tanjong Batoe, Dutch East Borneo, August 25, 1912. Collected by H. C. Raven.

Similar to *Rhopodytes sumatranus sumatranus* of Sumatra and the Malay Peninsular, but averaging a lighter gray on the head, throat, and chest; the size smaller. Wing, 136.5; tail, 210; culmen, 32.

Remarks.—Eight specimens from Borneo have been compared with a large series from the Malay Peninsula and a smaller series from Sumatra, Banka, Billiton, and Linga Island.

Five males from Borneo measure: wing, 130–145 (136.2); tail, 209–224 (214); culmen, 30–33.5 (31.7).

Ten males from the Malay Peninsula: wing, 132.5-151 (144); tail, 209-230 (221.7); culmen, 30-36.5 (33.3).

### Erythrocichla bicolor bankana, subsp. nov.

Type.—Adult male, U. S. National Museum, No. 180,585, Klabat Bay, Banka Island, June 23, 1904. Collected by Dr. W. L. Abbott.

Similar to *Erythrocichla bicolor bicolor* of Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula, but darker above, especially the pileum, wings, tail, and auriculars. Also similar to *Erythrocichla bicolor whiteheadi* of northern and western Borneo, but darker above. Wing, 83; tail, 65.5; culmen, 20.

Remarks.—The above male from Banka has been compared with four specimens from the Malay Peninsula and one female from Sumatra, one male from Southwest Borneo, one male from Southeast Borneo, and four specimens from East Borneo. The four specimens from the Malay Peninsula and the female from eastern Sumatra are fairly uniform in color. Cinnamon brown above; the pileum, wings, and tail near russet; below white, a band across the chest, the flanks, and the under tail-coverts light buff. The female from Southwest Borneo has the pileum almost concolor with the back and the auriculars snuff brown. It evidently belongs to Erythrocichla bicolor whiteheadi described from North Borneo. The five specimens from Southeast and East Borneo are more like the specimens from the Malay Peninsula than they are to the single male from Southwest Borneo. Just what disposition should be made of the East Bornean birds is left in abeyance.